



Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

3 April 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

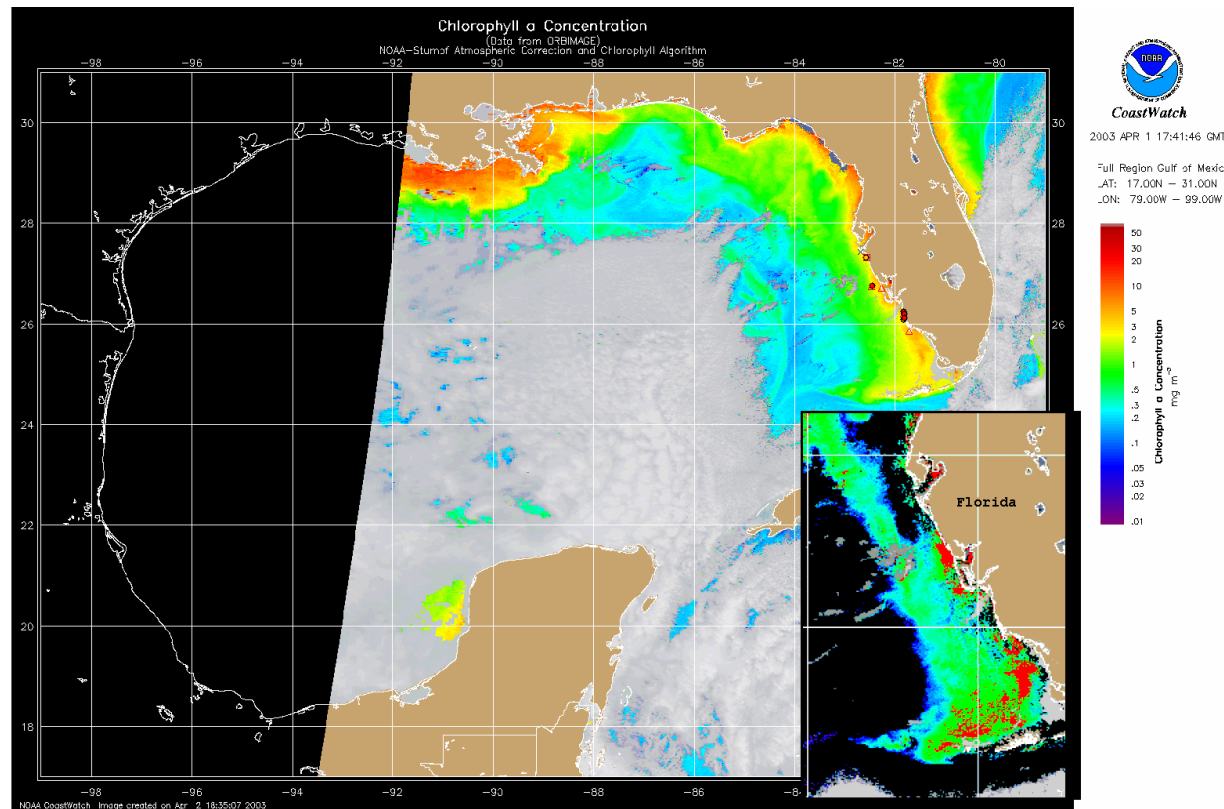
Last bulletin: March 27, 2003

Analysis

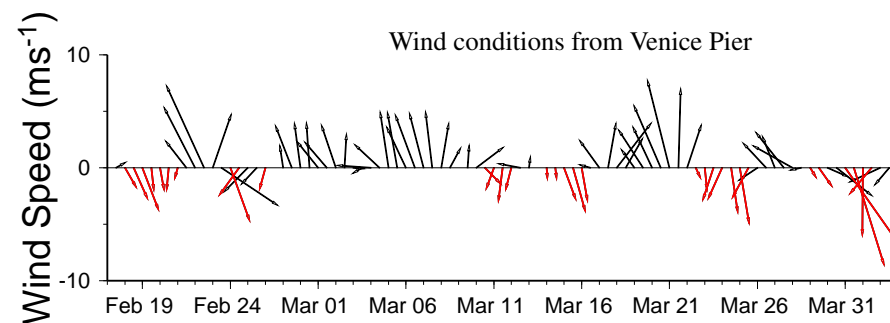
SW Florida: The *K. brevis* bloom from Venice to Ft. Meyers seems to have intensified and extends 10-15 km offshore. Cell counts from March 26-28 confirm medium to high counts from Sarasota to Naples. In addition, imagery indicates that the *K. brevis* bloom from Marco Island southward now extends approximately 25 km offshore. Chlorophyll has reached 7 ug/l in both areas. There is a possibility of very slight northward transport over the next few days.

Florida Keys: Imagery indicates a large flagged region 10km off the northern shore of the Keys, extending from Big Pine Key to about 20km west of the Marquesas Keys. Chlorophyll above 2 ug/l is observed. This is due to a large resuspension event, as a result of persistent strong north to northwesterly winds at the end of March.

-Tomlinson



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from March 28, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red circles (low), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

Southeast winds are predicted to dominate until Sunday, which should minimize *K. brevis* effects at the coast. A landward breeze is possible at the coast in the afternoon on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, however, the onshore transport of aerosols is unlikely.

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